

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LONDON 04276 01 OF 02 151703Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01  
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-06 EB-08 TRSE-00 OMB-01 IO-13 /086 W  
-----151736Z 042275 /50  
R 151647Z MAR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1561  
INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 LONDON 04276

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PFOR. AR, FA, UK  
SUBJECT: THE BRITISH AND THE FALKLANDS

SUMMARY: THE FCO REGARDS TED ROWLANDS' MISSION TO THE SOUTH ATLANTIC AS SUCCESSFUL IN ESTABLISHING BETTER COMMUNICATIONS WITH THE FALKLAND ISLANDERS; HMG IS PLEASED THAT THE INITIAL CONTACT WITH THE ARGENTINES MAY LEAD TO A NEGOTIATING PROCESS, BUT THERE ARE NO ILLUSIONS IN LONDON ABOUT THE PROSPECTS FOR RESOLVING THE DISPUTE. END SUMMARY

1. ADRIAN SINDALL OF THE FCO LATIN AMERICA DEPARTMENT, WHO ACCOMPANIED TED ROWLANDS TO THE FALKLANDS AND BUENOS AIRES, DESCRIBES THE TRIP AS A SUCCESS WHEN MEASURED AGAINST ITS LIMITED AIMS. ROWLANDS' MOST ENCOURAGING ACCOMPLISHMENT CAME IN THE FALKLANDS WHERE HE MANAGED TO CREATE AN ATMOSPHERE OF TRUST AND TO ESTABLISH A FRANK DIALOGUE BETWEEN HMG AND THE ISLANDERS. AT THE BEGINNING, THE PEOPLE OF THE FALKLANDS SUSPECTED THAT THE ROWLANDS MISSION MIGHT BE THE FIRST STEP TOWARDS A BRITISH SELL-OUT ON THE ISSUE OF SOVEREIGNTY AND WERE PREDISPOSED TO EXPECT A CARD TO EMERGE FROM THE MINISTER'S SLEEVE. BUT IN FOUR VIGOROUS DAYS, ROWLANDS  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LONDON 04276 01 OF 02 151703Z

MANAGED TO DISPEL THE APPREHENSION. WITH CHARACTERISTIC ENERGY, HE VISITED SCHOOLS, HOMES, SHOPS AND SHEEP-DIPS. SINDALL ESTIMATES HVAT ROWLANDS SPOKE WITH HALF THE 2000-POPULATION OF THE ISLANDS. WHICH WHILE NOT STATISTICALLY EXTRAORDINARY, WAS POLITICALLY EFFECTIVE.

2. ROWLANDS CONVINCED THE FALKLANDERS THAT THERE COULD

BE NO NEW ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN THE ISLANDS WITHOUT NEGOTIATING THE POLITICAL PROBLEMS WITH ARGENTINA. AND WITHOUT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, HE SAID, THE ISLANDS SURELY FACE A STEADY DECLINE TO DECAY. ASSISTANCE FROM BRITAIN COULD ONLY GO SO FAR AND COULD NOT BE REGARDED AS AN INFINITE SOURCE OF ARTIFICIAL RESPIRATION. ROWLANDS "EXPLAINED REALITIES," SINDALL SAID, AND FINALLY WON AGREEMENT THAT HMG SHOULD AT LEAST EXPLORE WITH THE ARGENTINES WHAT POSSIBILITIES EXIST FOR RECONCILIATION. HE EQUALLY SUGGESTED THAT SUCH TALKS WOULD GET NOWHERE WITHOUT ADDRESSING THE ISSUE OF SOVEREIGNTY. IN JOINT SESSION, THE LEGISLATIVE AND EXECUTIVE COUNCILS OF THE FALKLANDS FINALLY BUT UNEASILY GAVE ROWLANDS THE MANDATE HE SOUGHT.

3. THE BUENOS AIRES SECTION OF THE ROWLANDS TRIP FINISHED WITH FEWER MEASURABLE RESULTS, SINDALL SAID. THE ARGENTINES AGREED TO TALKS WITH THE BRITISH BUT THE AGREEMENT EMERGED FROM THIN AND GENERAL CONCEPTS. ROWLANDS ARGUED THAT BOTH SIDES SHOULD SEEK A MIDDLE GROUND AND BALANCE BETWEEN THE THEMES OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND POLITICAL SOVEREIGNTY. BOTH SIDES SHOULD CLARIFY EXPECTATIONS AND COME TO UNDERSTAND THEIR DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVES. ROWLANDS ALSO PRESSED THE POINT THAT HIS OWN GOVERNMENT MUST PAY ATTENTION TO PUBLIC OPINION, JUST LIKE THE ARGENTINES. IN HMG'S CASE, HOW-

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LONDON 04276 02 OF 02 151700Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01  
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-06 EB-08 TRSE-00 OMB-01 IO-13 /086 W  
-----151734Z 042216 /50

R 151647Z MAR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1562  
INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 LONDON 04276

EVER, THERE ARE TWO PUBLIC OPINIONS: A STRONG SYMPATHY AMONG THE BRITISH FOR THEIR FARAWAY KINSMEN, AND THE VIEWS OF THE FALKLANDERS THEMSELVES, WHICH IS A SIMPLE FACT OF LIFE.

4. WHILE THE TALKS IN BUENOS AIRES WERE CORDIAL, ROWLANDS CAME AWAY WITH LITTLE OF SUBSTANCE. NONE OF THE NETTLESOME ISSUES WAS DISCUSSED. THE TWO GOVERNMENTS AGREED TO EXCHANGE THROUGH EMBASSIES THEIR RESPECTIVE IDEAS ON TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR EVENTUAL NEGOTIATIONS, BUT THE EXCHANGES WERE SO GENERAL THAT NOT EVEN THE RESTORATION OF NORMAL DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WAS MENTIONED.

5. COMMENT: HMG REGARDS ROWLANDS' MISSION AS EFFECTIVE INsofar AS THE FALKLANDERS AND THEIR ACTIVE LOBBY HERE HAVE BEEN REASSURED. THE TRIP REPRESENTS A BRITISH INITIATIVE PREFERABLE TO DOING NOTHING AND CREDITABLE IN THE EYES OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY. BUT IT HAS LED TO NO ILLUSIONS IN WHITEHALL. THE INTRACTABILITY OF THE ISSUES IS WELL RECOGNIZED BY THE BRITISH AND FCO FRUSTRATION IS COMPOUNDED BY WHAT IS PERCEIVED AS INSTABILITY IN THE UPPER LEVELS OF ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT. CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LONDON 04276 02 OF 02 151700Z

WHILE HOPES MAY HAVE BEEN RAISED IN THE ISLANDS, THE GOVERNMENT HERE WOULD BE THE LAST TO PREDICT THAT THE FORTHCOMING TALKS WITH THE ARGENTINES WILL LEAD ANYWHERE. IN FACT, THE PROPOSED DISCUSSIONS MAY EXPOSE THE IRRECONCILABILITY OF BRITISH AND ARGENTINE VIEWS, LEAVING THE FALKLANDS PROBLEM EVER FURTHER BEYOND THE PROSPECTS OF RESOLUTION.

SPIERS

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, VISITS, NEGOTIATIONS, SELFDETERMINATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 15-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977LONDON04276  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770088-1130  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** LONDON  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770359/aaaabzrm.tel  
**Line Count:** 153  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** ba27f8b7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 15-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3105913  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** THE BRITISH AND THE FALKLANDS SUMMARY: THE FCO REGARDS TED ROWLANDS' MISSION TO THE SOUTH ATLANTIC AS SUCCESSFUL IN ESTABLISHING BETTE  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PDEV, AR, FA, UK, (ROWLANDS, TED)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/ba27f8b7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009